

Horseman rocks Yugoslavs

WYCOMBE WANDERERS completed the 1972/3 season with a successful tour of Yugoslavia, skipper John Delaney playing his last game for the club in their 3-1 victory over F.C. Leotar.

The tour party stayed at Srebreno, a coastal resort close to Dubrovnik and enjoyed magnificent weather, the temperature in the mid-eighties. A visit was made to Dubrovnik and other local places of interest.

Accompanied by a contingent of supporters from the hotel, the tour party travelled 25 miles to Trebinje over hair-raising mountain roads, many carved out of the rock face.

Greeted warmly on arrival by the Mayor and club officials, the Wanderers inspected a pitch which was in beautiful condition, situated in a natural bowl, ringed by mountains. Photographs were taken and a Club pennant presented to the Leotar captain.

FAST PACE

It was there that the pleasures ended. The game started at a fast pace with fierce tackling and the offside trap being "sprung" consistently.

Even so, Wycombe went to

the dressing rooms at half time one up through a goal by Alan Gane. A free kick taken by Keith Mead was flighted into the Leotar penalty area for Steve Perrin to head down to Gane outside the box, who struck the ball with his left foot to put Wycombe one up.

Wanderers increased their pressure in the second half, but each time the forwards broke through they were without ceremony scythed down. The home side went level after a misunderstanding in the Wycombe penalty area caused a soft back pass to the goalkeeper to be intercepted and easily dispatched past goalkeeper John Overton.

Play became even more physical after this and the referee frequently interrupted the game to speak to players. It was from such an incident in the 75th minute that a direct free kick was awarded for a foul 25 yards from the Leotar goal. Tony Horseman drove the ball past a wall of defenders into the top

corner of the net for number two.

The Wycombe back four of Grant, Delaney, Mead and Rundle were little troubled by the opposition's forwards while the midfield trio of Holfield, Mellows and Gane pushed forward constantly.

Wanderers sealed the result after another free kick. The defensive wall lined up determined to prevent a replica of the second goal, but this time Mellows ran over the ball and Horseman "bent" it around the wall into the back of the net.

A further fixture with F.C. Gosk has been arranged, but due to organisational difficulties in the Yugoslav Club, the game was not played. Officials visited the hotel to apologise for any inconvenience caused to the Wycombe Club.

Wycombe Wanderers: P. Spittle (sub J. Overton, Kingstorian 45 mins), I. Rundle, K. Grant (Enfield), K. Mead (Slough), J. Delaney, A. Gane, K. Swain (sub B. Langfield, 45 mins), M. Holfield, D. Evans (Cheltenham sub A. Horseman 45 mins), M. Mellows, S. Perrin (British Colleges).